

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks responsive to the Office Action dated February 15, 2007, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application. Applicant respectfully thanks the Office for the withdrawal of the previous prior art rejections and the indication that all of claims 1-23 are allowable over the prior art.

However, the Office has asserted a new ground of rejection with respect to all of claims 1-23. Particularly, the Office rejected claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. 101 asserting that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. According to the Office, claims 1-23 define non-statutory processes because they merely manipulate an abstract idea (manipulation of data information) without a claim limitation to a practical application. The Office asserts that, if the acts of a claimed process manipulate only numbers, abstract concepts or ideas, or signals representing any of the foregoing, the acts are not being applied to appropriate subject matter.

Applicant respectfully traverses.

The language of the claims presently meets and at all times has met the requirements for statutory subject matter. Nevertheless, Applicant has amended independent method claim 1 and independent apparatus claim 15 to recite even further manipulation of physical entities. Applicant has not amended independent apparatus claim 23 and, as explained below, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection with respect to claim 23.

In independent method claim 1, each element in the claim refers to manipulation of a physical device. Particularly, the first element refers to storing data "in a memory device", the second element refers to receiving a selection via "a user interface", the third element refers to retrieving information "from a database", the fourth element

refers to receiving a selection via "a user interface", and the final element refers to updating data "in said memory device".

Accordingly, claim 1 and all of its dependent claims clearly meet the statutory requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101.

Independent article of manufacture claim 15 is quite similar to claim 1 in this regard. Each element of the claim refers to the manipulation of a physical device. Just like claim 1, the first element refers to storing data "in a memory device", the second element refers to receiving a selection via "a user interface", the third element refers to retrieving information "from a database", the fourth element refers to receiving a selection via a "a user interface", and the final element refers to updating data "in said memory device".

Accordingly, claim 15 and all of its dependent claims clearly meet the statutory requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101.

Finally, independent system claim 23 contains four elements, each of which has suitable physical characteristics. For instance, the dictionary database recited in the first element is "stored on a memory device", the pronunciation database in the second element is "stored on a memory device". Further, the "input/output system" of the third element is a physical element. For instance, it can be a computer monitor or other type of display device. Finally, the "programmable controller" recited in the final element is a physical device (see Figure 1). It can be a processor, microprocessor or any other suitable computing device, for instance.

Accordingly, claim 23 and all of its dependent claims clearly meet the statutory requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the Office to issue a Notice of Allowance at the earliest possible date. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned counsel by telephone call in order to further the prosecution of this case in any way.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 3, 2007

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